

PARTITION OF TURKEY

Seriously Discussed by the European Powers.

TREATY OVER CRETAN AFFAIRS

Change Had to Choose Between Favorable to Crete and Unfavorable to Its People.

February 13.—(Copyrighted 1897 by the Associated Press.)—All Europe is looking on with anxious interest at the Cretan negotiations, as a spark may set off a conflagration. Every body is agreed that the most critical moment is the most critical moment in the history of the island. The powers intervened in Turkish affairs, and the Cretan people, who have been suffering from the Turkish rule, are now in a position to demand a change of government. The powers have been unable to reach an agreement, and the Cretan people are now in a position to demand a change of government. The powers have been unable to reach an agreement, and the Cretan people are now in a position to demand a change of government.

Importance of these conferences cannot be overestimated. The fact that Count von Hatzfeldt, the German ambassador, went to Crete, although he was in such a position that he was unable to meet the Cretan people, is a sign of the importance of the matter. The Cretan people are now in a position to demand a change of government. The powers have been unable to reach an agreement, and the Cretan people are now in a position to demand a change of government.

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the object of his continual solicitude while on his way to England recently. Dr. Jameson and the Chartered company will also be represented by counsel at the inquiry, and a colonial office attaché will formally produce the Cape Colony blue book. A copy of the charter of the British South Africa company will also be submitted in evidence by Mr. Rhodes. The evidence will deal entirely with the circumstances of the raid into the Transvaal, and not into the alleged misadministration of Cape Colony. It is expected that the inquiry will last a couple of sessions.

The French chamber of deputies will soon deal with a bill for the taxation of foreigners, which the Viscount de Montfort and several of his friends have just submitted. It provides that all male foreigners pay the military tax upon Frenchmen who are exempted from taxation, and foreigners exonerated from profession or calling will, if the bill becomes law, pay a supplemental tax. In the case of workmen this tax will not amount to less than 3 per cent of their earnings, while the tax on professionals is calculated on the license duty which they pay. The product of these taxes will be devoted to the assistance of the needy wives and families of soldiers.

Brazilian Troubles.
New York, February 13.—A dispatch from Rio Janeiro, Brazil, says: Commerce is practically at a standstill, owing to the political situation. There are fears in some quarters, too, that President Moraes will reassume power on March 17.

Colonel Moreira Cesar, the commander of the troops operating against the fanatics, reports to the Brazilian government that the fanatics are anxious to avoid fighting and are now gathered at Canubina and Monte Sango.

The government has declared that it attaches no importance to the religion of the fanatics and that the government is in no danger.

A declaration of a republic by the fanatics is received with reticence by the Brazilian officers.

Volcano in Mexico.
Oaxaca, Mexico, February 13.—As a result of the recent earthquake shocks which were felt throughout this state and in the more distant parts of Southern Mexico, a new volcano has broken forth from one of the mountains near the town of Coatepec, south of Mexico.

The volcano is pouring forth a great volume of lava and ashes, and the inhabitants of Coatepec and surrounding country are much alarmed for the safety of their lives and property.

The disturbances continue to be felt at intervals of every few hours, but their force is decreasing.

The Treaty in Venezuela.
Washington, February 13.—Information has been received here from Venezuela to the effect that the arbitration treaty signed in Washington by Sir Julian Pauncefote and Senor Andrade, has safely reached Caracas and will be laid before the Venezuelan congress as soon as it convenes. It is said on the best authority that the ratification of the treaty is practically assured; that all substantial opposition has disappeared upon a more accurate popular understanding of the terms of the agreement and that the attempt by Crespo's enemies to foment hostility to the treaty and make a political issue of it has signally failed.

Colombian Navy.
Panama, February 13.—The government of Colombia has voted 6,000,000 francs for the purchase of more warships.

The navy now consists of only one cruiser, the *Cordoba*, which was recently fitted out in New York and which learned out to be a failure; the gunboats *Lepanto* and *Bayana*, and the revenue cutters *Narino* and *Hercules*.

TRUST INVESTIGATIONS.
A Wholesale Grocer Says He Was Forced Out of Business.

New York, February 13.—The legislative joint committee on trusts resumed its sitting in this city today. Before taking up the threat of the investigation where it dropped on Monday, the announcement was made that William M. Sears would be questioned as to the operations of the United States Rubber company. George McDougal and John B. Searies were both absent, although business as usual, and were given until Monday to appear.

Mr. Lawton W. Fuller was called to place a value on the rubber business. He said he was in the rubber business from 1854 to 1875 and was in the real estate business when the sugar trust was formed. Mr. Fuller knew very little about the value of the individual plant, and Mr. Lexow labored with him for a long time without extracting any information.

Edward J. Dugan, a wholesale grocer, was the next witness. He had been in the sugar business for twenty years. He said that he was what is known as a factor for the sugar trust. Before the trust was formed he could buy sugar anywhere, but after the trust went into operation he refused to join the Wholesale Grocers' association, and then he could not buy any sugar at all.

"What reason was given for that?" "They said I was cutting prices and I was then forced to buy imported sugar."

"What was said to you?" "Robert Russell of this city told me that I must buy all my sugar from the American company."

In answer to further questions Mr. Dugan said that the trust had refused to sell him any sugar and allow him the rebate by which a profit could be made.

"The trust," he said, "then forced me out of business and I am about to close out. The factor gets a rebate of 3-8 of a cent a pound. A grocer can not live unless he is a factor. He would be forced out of business. You must make an affidavit that you will sell the sugar at a certain rate before you get the rebate."

One of the articles in the factor's agreement reads: "None of the sugar shall be sold by you or disposed of by you for less than our daily quotations with freight added from point to point of sale, nor on more liberal terms as to credit and cash discounts."

Witness made his agreement in October, 1885, and since he was thrown out he has sold very little sugar. When a customer wanted a barrel of sugar he went out and bought it from another grocer.

"Did you pay more for it than when you bought from the American Sugar Refining company?" "Yes, because I could not get the rebate."

Chairman Lexow said that on account of the absence of Mr. Searies the committee would adjourn until Monday at 10 a. m. He added that he did not care to change the line of investigation until he had finished the sugar inquiry.

The committee will meet every day next week.

It has been announced that the committee will on Thursday enter upon an investigation of the so-called wall paper trust.

Henry Burn, president of the National Wall Paper company, has been subpoenaed to testify.

Will Continue to Lecture.
Chicago, February 13.—W. J. Bryan, who is in the city today, said that he would continue to lecture as long as occasion required. As a rule his lectures will be given under the auspices of the Bimetallite league, or similar organizations, which would share in the receipts. In this way he would be assured the silver cause and providing an income for himself.

BROWN BROS.

AT HOUSTON'S BIG STORE.

WEEK OF INTERESTING BARGAINS.

Early Spring Wash Fabrics.

500 Dress Patterns, Brocaded Woven Zephyrs, quality that sold previous seasons at 15c a yard, fast colors, dainty spring patterns and entirely new.

A 10-Yard Dress Pattern

For 59c

Look for These in Our Windows.

At 5c a Yard.

Genuine Zephyr Gingham. In small check, in delicate blue only, the real French Gingham, and always sold at 10c, now at 5c a yard, only ten yards to a customer.

Great Sale in Towels.

100 dozen Linen Damask Towels, 24x4, red border, fringed, a splendid 2c Towel, at 10c.

50 dozen Bleached Honeycomb Towels, fringed, extra heavy and extra large, a splendid 15c Towel, for 5c.

30 dozen All Linen Bleached Satin Damask Towels, double knotted fringe, fast colors, red and blue borders, a splendid half dollar Towel, at 25c.

100 dozen Bleached Satin Damask Fringed Napkins, sold at \$1.25, this week, 75c a dozen.

French Sateens.

Solid Black Brocaded Sateens, Silk Finish, warranted in color, 22c quality, at 11c a yard.

25c quality, 15c a yard.

Lace Stripe Scrim.

100 yards Lace Stripe Scrim, for window curtains, worth 10c, at 5c a yard.

Our Closing Out Carpet Sale.

Tapestry Brussels, 9 and 10-wire, 65c quality, at 45c a yard.

Tapestry Brussels, "Roxbury," 10-wire, the 75c quality, at 55c a yard.

Tapestry Brussels, dress 12-wire, sold at 85c and 90c, now 55c a yard.

10 pieces Roly Brussels, 1.00 quality, closing sale price, 50c a yard.

6 pieces Axminster, 1.50 and 1.05 quality, closing sale price, 50c a yard.

20 pieces of Remnants, will make nice Rugs, comprising Inset Tapestry Brussels, Velvets and Moquettes, at one-half price.

Rugs—All Smyrna Rugs at one-third less than value.

Prices on Ingrain Carpets at less than cost.

6 pieces Wool, extra Super, sold at 40c and 45c a yard, now 25c.

10 pieces All Wool, extra Super, all new patterns, sold at 60c and 65c a yard, now 25c.

MATTINGS—Great Specials in Mattings.

500 Opaque Window Shades.

EMBOSSERY—500 yards, assorted designs, Brocade, worth \$1 a yard, at 50c.

250 yards, same as above, Satin finish, worth \$1.25 a yard, at 80c.

250 yards, 48-inch Satin Damask, for Drapery, worth \$1.50 a yard, at 90c.

TAPESTRY AND MADRAS CURTAINS—50 pairs Fringed Tapestry Portieres, 24 yards long, in Old Rose, Nile, Red and Blue, worth \$4.50 a pair, \$2.50.

100 pairs Cream Madras Curtains, in Rose and Green Borders, worth \$2.50 a pair, at \$1.25.

LACE CURTAINS—Special Offerings—50 pairs Lace Curtains, 70c, 90c and \$1.25. Each and every pair will be found worth nearly double.

50 pairs Embroidered Swiss Curtains, at \$1.45, \$1.75, \$1.95, \$2.45 and up to \$5 a pair. Come early and get best selection.

NEW ARRIVALS IN THE WAY OF BARGAINS

THIS WEEK will be a Week for Bargains such as rarely met with, and all that will be placed on sale are New and Stylish Goods bought for this Great Sale.

A GREAT GLOVE SALE.

At 69c a Pair—Tomorrow we will place on sale 100 dozen Kid Gloves, in Black, Brown, Tan, Mode and Oxblood, made in the latest Foster, Paul & Co.'s large 4-hooks, with heavy silk stitched back, worth \$1.25..... At 69c a Pair

At 48c a Pair—25 dozen Ladies' Kid Gauntlets, Bicycle or Driving Gloves, worth \$1..... At 48c a Pair

At 98c a Pair—50 dozen Ladies' Real French Kid Gloves, with 4 large pearl buttons, in latest shades of Oxblood and Lemon, worth \$1.50 and \$1.75..... At 98c a Pair

At 69c a Pair—10 dozen 8-Button Mosquitaires, in 5 1/2, 5 3/4 and 6; this particular line is well worth \$1.50 a pair, but being the sizes are broken we will sell them..... At 69c a Pair

At \$1.39 a Pair—15 dozen 16-Button Undressed Kid Mosquitaires, in all the evening shades, worth \$2.50... At \$1.39c a Pair

GREAT UNDERWEAR SALE.

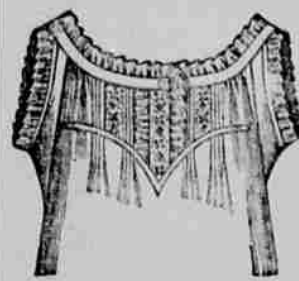
50 dozen Muslin Chemises, worth 50c, at 25c

20 dozen Muslin Chemises, embroidered, tucked and ruffled yoke, worth 75c, at 38c

15 dozen Muslin Chemises, tucked and embroidered square yoke, worth 80c, at 48c

12 dozen Muslin Chemises, embroidered and ruffled round yoke, worth \$1, at 69c

12 dozen Cambric Chemises, double row insertion and ribbon trimming, with ruffled bottom, worth \$1.50, at 98c



25 dozen Muslin Gowns, tucked and ruffled yoke, neck and sleeves, worth 85c

15 dozen Muslin Gowns, with large ruffled collar, embroidered and tucked yoke, ruffled sleeve, full sweep, worth \$1 to \$1.25, at only 69c

6 dozen Real Fine Embroidered Gowns, worth \$1.50 and \$1.75, at 98c

25 dozen Muslin Drawers, tucked, worth 40c

20 to 50c, at 23c

20 dozen Cambric Drawers, large embroidered ruffle, worth 75c, at 39c

12 dozen Cambric Drawers, tucked and embroidered ruffle, worth 90c, at 48c

8 dozen Fine Cambric Drawers, hemstitched and embroidered ruffle, worth \$1, at 58c

6 dozen Cambric Drawers, heavily tucked and embroidered ruffle, worth \$1.50, at 89c

25 dozen Muslin Underskirts, tucked and ruffled bottom, worth 85c, at 48c

15 dozen Cambric Underskirts, tucked and embroidered ruffle, worth \$1.25

10 dozen Muslin Underskirts, double embroidered ruffle, worth \$1.50, at 98c

10 dozen Corset Covers, embroidered neck, V shape, worth 40c, at 19c

8 dozen Cambric Corset Covers, square neck, embroidered yoke and neck, worth 50c, at 25c

6 dozen Cambric Corset Covers, square yoke, embroidered neck, yoke and shoulder, worth 75c, at 39c

10 dozen Cambric Corset Covers, V and square shape, trimmed in Irish point, and a bargain at \$1, marked down to 58c

ONE MORE CORSET SALE.

50 dozen Prima Donna French Corsets, the genuine imported Corset, long waist, perfect fitting, sold at \$1.50, goes at 75c

6-Hook at 39c—20 dozen Corsets in 6-Hook, our \$1 Corsets, in sizes 23 to 26, at 39c

\$1.25 Corsets for 58c—100 dozen a la Mode French Make Corsets, 6-hook, black and white, all sizes, worth \$1.25, at 58c

W. B. and Thomson's Glove Fitting at Reduced Prices.

TO MAIL ORDER CUSTOMERS:

Please send your orders early in the week so as to receive everything advertised.

Houston Dry Goods Co., Successors to

BROWN BROS.

614, 618, 616, 620, MAIN STREET.